

REMARKS

Claim 1 is now pending in the present application.

Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has given the following Restriction Requirement:

Group I, claim 1, drawn to an apparatus for protecting a MOS component; and

Group II, claim 2, drawn to a method for protecting a MOS component.

In response to this requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1 drawn to an apparatus for protecting a MOS component. This election is with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that it should be no undue burden on the Examiner to consider all claims in the single application. However, without conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, it is respectfully noted that non-elected claim 2 has been canceled simply to expedite prosecution of this application.

In the event there are any outstanding matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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